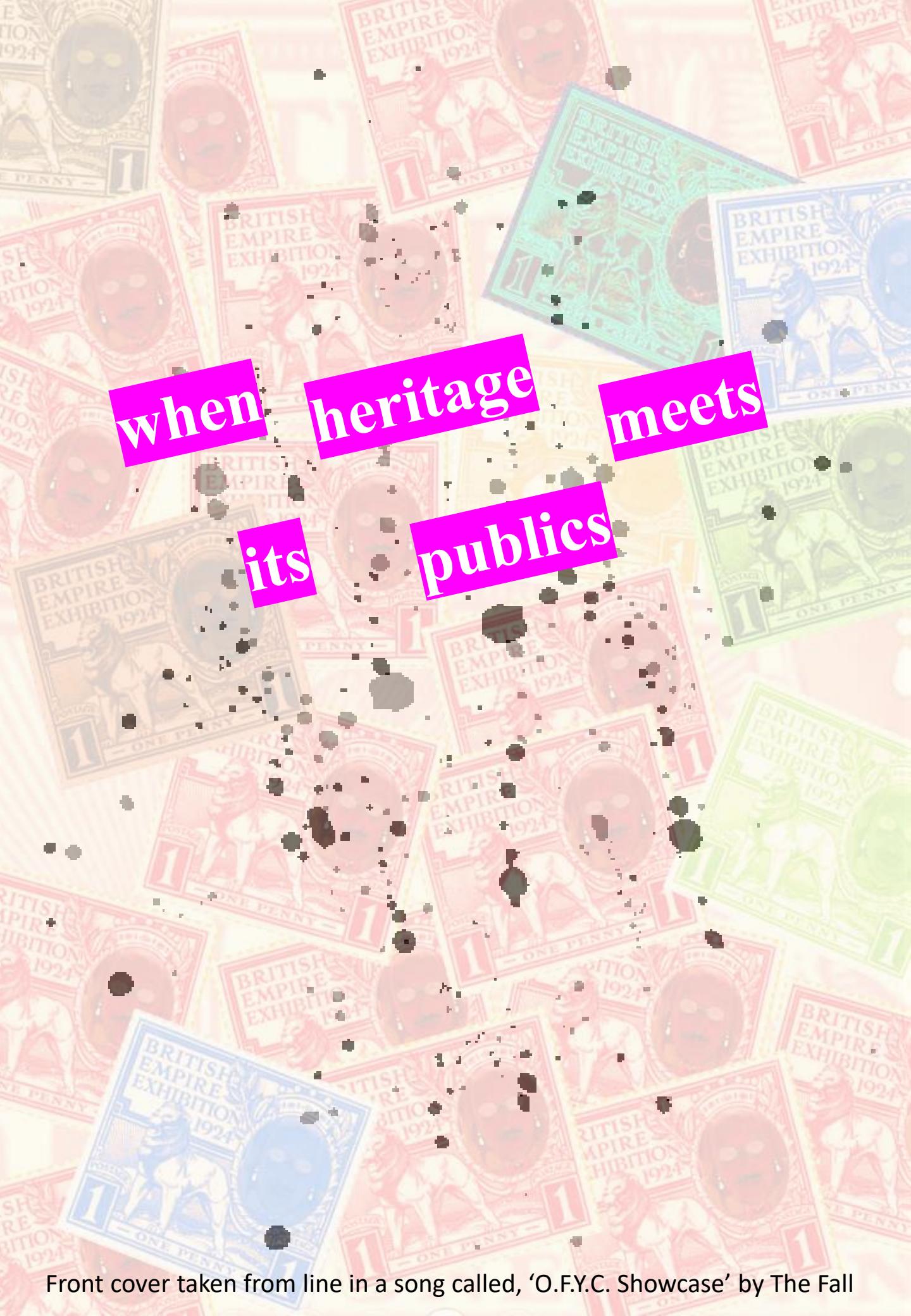


RE
CLUTTER
YOUR
FUTURE





when heritage meets
its publics



THIS IS
NOT THE
BRITISH EMPIRE
EXHIBITION
GUIDE

As part of a funded initiative by the Faculty of Arts

at the University of Bristol to enhance research

culture, Peter Baxter collaborated with Brent Museum and Archives in the London Borough of Brent working with participants to create zines.

The opportunity provided valuable work

experience in the public research context,

contributing to academic and professional growth,
, and some irreverent zines.

Using the anniversary moment of the British

Empire Exhibition, 1924 and 1925, Peter Baxter

conducted informal interviews with

participants unfamiliar with local history, collecting creative responses to historical materials which

offered content for the zines.

The zines are shared through various physical and digital platforms, and the best place to start is at

the Internet Archive.

what

wanted to shake things up / wanted to hear from you
/ museums might seem like just another part of the scene
/ but they're also (s)p(l)aces where the usual rules can
bend, twist, warp or flip / here's the real feel into
museum artifacts / those relics of the past tense /
breaking out of their glass cases / publics challenge the
status quo / we need your voice in this / what do you
think about the stuff on display / do these artifacts reflect
our world / or do they push back against it / it's time to
rip up the rulebook / get mono-spilling about what these
gewgaws and gimcracks mean to us

The present sure is tense



the archive caught heterotopia...

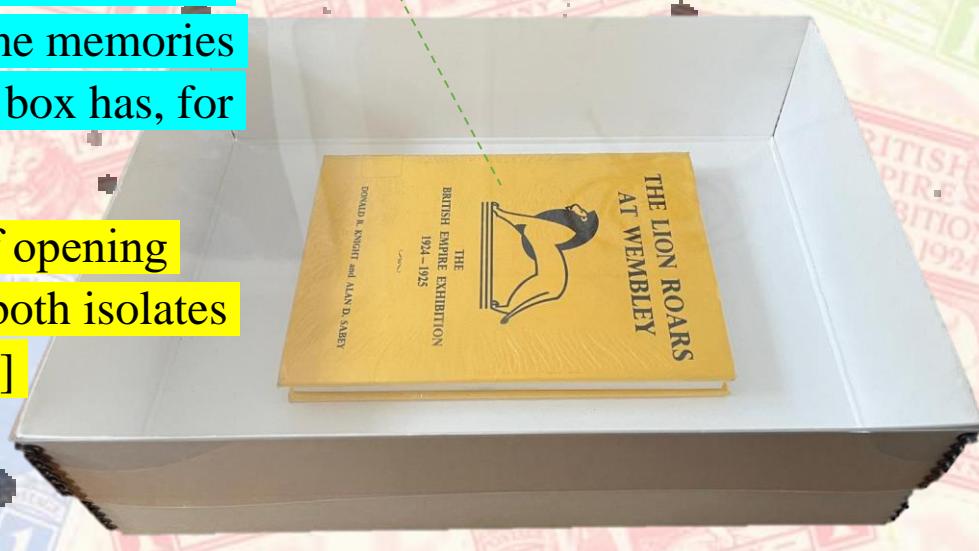
‘heterotopias,’ - the experimental zone where new social orders and ways of living are tested out. Containing museum artefacts, can the archival storage box, designed to preserve its contents, constitute a heterotopia space? It is capable, as Foucault says, of

‘juxtaposing in a single real place several spaces, several sites that are in themselves incompatible.’

The box contains specific memories of past events. The box is clearly linked to, as Foucault says, ‘slices in time’. The box has a method of entry to the memories contained within. The box has, for Foucault,

‘a system of opening and closing that both isolates [it] and makes [it] penetrable’

the gristle of everyday grind but also stands on the fringes, or between, where society’s rules start to wobble, get twisted, or straight-up smashed. It’s where the usual script gets rewritten, and people carve out new ways to think and act. Michel Foucault, a French philosopher, spewed up and down this concept, flipping the idea of utopia on its head – no (im)perfect dreamland here, but a raw, real place like prisons, fairgrounds, theatres, and brothels. Since then, the idea’s blown up in cultural theory and social sciences, stretched to cover anything from whole cities to online spaces and even made-up worlds.



/het(e)rō(t)opIe/



at work in

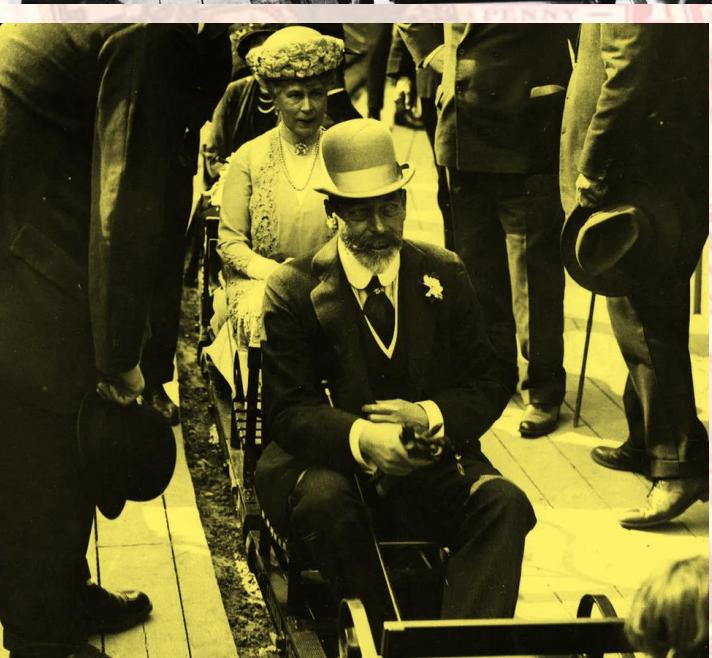




EXTRAORDINARY

EXTRAORDINARY

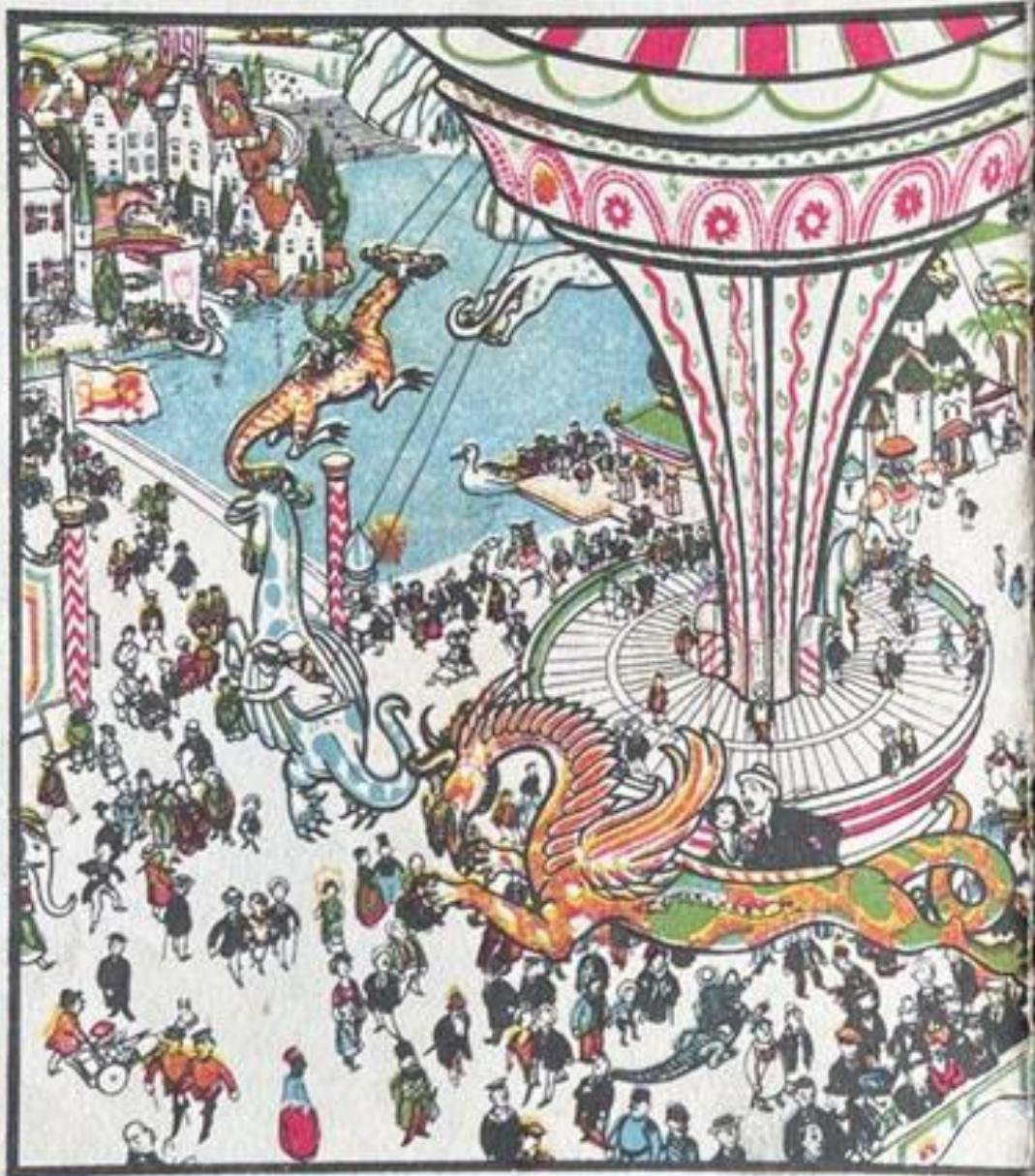
БАБА БА



БАБА БА БА БА БА БА

LOVE
LION
T

The Joys of Wembley

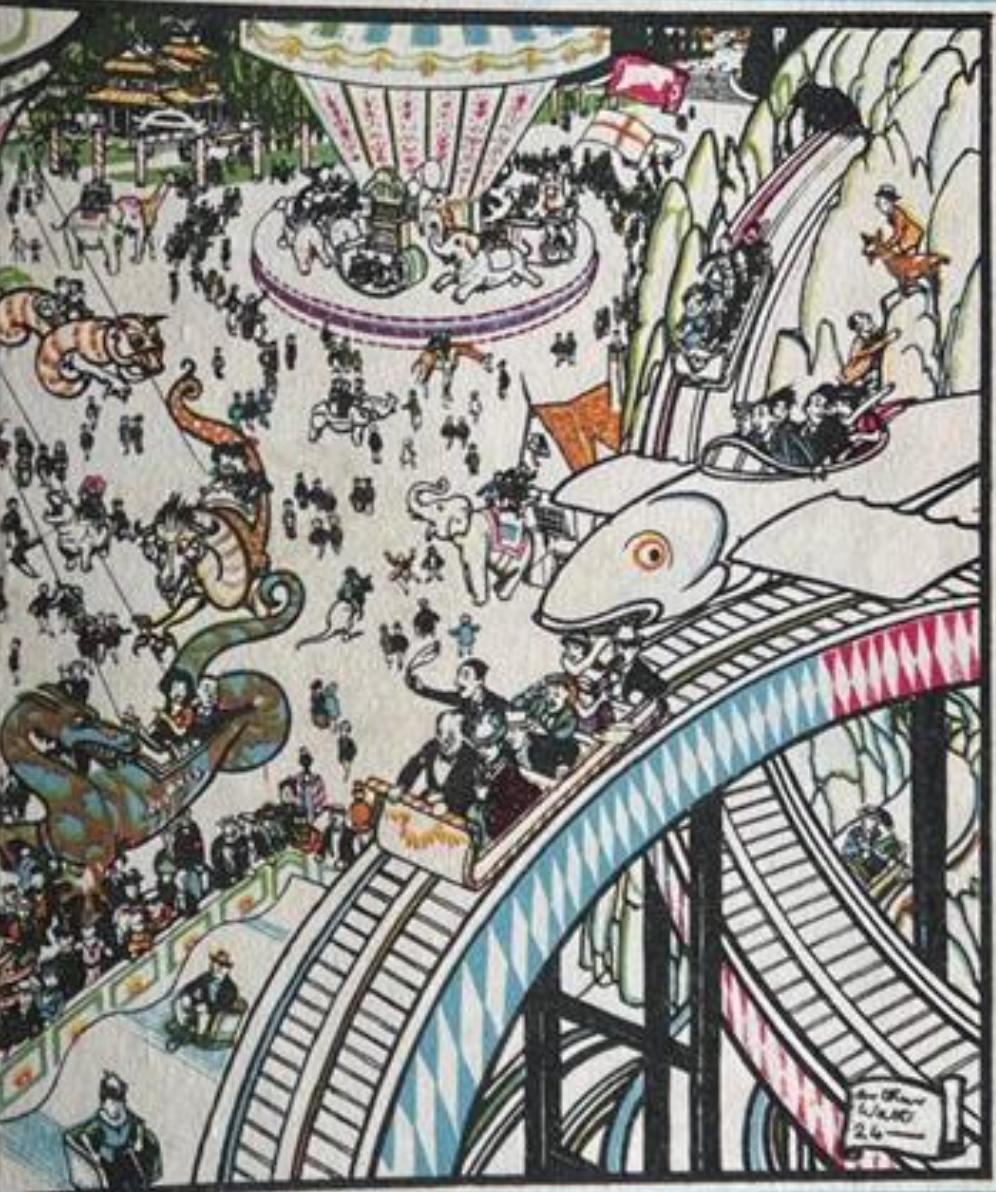


The World's greatest Aggr

BRITISH
EMPIRE

942.185

The Joys of Wembley



legation of Amusements



inflat
ion
HA HA



Let's forget
this imperial
monarchist
history and
vote for a
republic
future.

HA HA

out of the wreckage a new gift shop



The working class did not rise like the sun at an appointed time. It was present at its own making.



CHALLENGING MAINSTREAM VERSIONS OF THE PAST



The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles....

The modern bourgeois society that has sprouted from the ruins of feudal society has not done away with class antagonisms.

It has but established new classes, new conditions of oppression, new forms of struggle in place of the old ones....

All previous historical movements were movements of minorities, or in the interest of minorities.

The proletarian movement is the self-conscious, independent movement of the immense majority, in the interest of the immense majority.



A COMMONS FOR LOCAL HISTORY





Find out about the British Empire
Exhibition at the Brent Museum and
Archives.

